

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PEKING 00071 130143Z

64

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /070 W
----- 066856

P R 121040Z JAN 76 ZFG
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5013
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PEKING 0071

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: CH PINT

SUBJECT: CHOU EN-LAI'S DEATH: ATMOSPHERICS

1. SUMMARY: PEKING'S MOURNING GAINED MOMENTUM JANUARY 12 AS THE
MASSES HAVE NOW BEEN ALLOWED TO JOIN IN PUBLIC CEREMONIES.

2. AFTER OVER 10,000 LEADERS AND PEOPLE OF PEKING VIEWED CHOU'S
REMAINS IN THE HOSPITAL, THE BODY WAS TAKEN, IN AFTERNOON OF JANUARY
11, TO PAPAOSHAN WEST OF THE CITY FOR CREMATION. MANY THOUSANDS OF
PEKING INHABITANTS LINED THE STREETS TO WATCH THE FORMAL PROCESSION
PASS.

3. ON MORNING OF JANUARY 12, FOREIGN "FRIENDS", DIPLOMATS AND
SELECTED CHINESE MASS REPRESENTATIVES FILED INTO THE WORKS' CULTURAL
PARK TO PAY RESPECTS TO CHOU'S PICTURE AND ASHES. USLO ACTING CHIEF
AND EIGHT OTHER STAFF MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN THIS CEREMONY. IN
ATMOSPHERE UNRELIEVEDLY SOLEMNIZED BY DIRGE FROM LOUDSPEAKERS THROUGH
-

OUT THE PARK, THE PRINCIPAL CEREMONY WAS HELD IN THE ANCIENT PALACE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PEKING 00071 130143Z

TEMPLE USED FOR THE FUNERALS OF TUNG PI-WU AND KANG SHENG (AND, IN

EARLIER TIMES FOR DISPLAY OF MING AND CHING EMPERORS'S ANCESTRAL TABLETS). MOVING PAST CIVILIAN MASS AND PLA REPRESENTATIVES, THOSE PAYING RESPECTS SIGNED CONDOLENCE BOOK, SHOOK HANDS WITH FOREIGN

MINISTER AND OTHER DIGNITARIES, STOOD FOR A MOMENT OF SILENCE BEFORE PREMIER'S PHOTOGRAPH AND FILED BACK OUT OF THE PARK.

4. INSIDE THE PARK, THOUSANDS OF SILENT CHINESE, WEARING TRADITIONAL WHITE FLOWER AND ARMBAND, WAITED PATIENTLY FOR FOREIGN CONTINGENTS TO PASS, WHILE OUTSIDE TENS OF THOUSANDS MORE MOVED PAST WREATHS

PLACED ON THE MARTYRS MONUMENT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TIEN AN MEN SQUARE. THOUSANDS OF OTHERS CAME TO WATCH, MANY OF THEM APPARENTLY HAVING COME NEWLY INTO PEKING, AND BY MID-AFTERNOON, HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS HAD GATHERED IN OR MOVED THROUGH TIEN AN MEN SQUARE. THE CROWDS, THE BIGGEST IN THE SQUARE SINCE THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION WERE SOLEMN, MOSTLY SILENT, AND MANY PEOPLE WERE TEARFUL.

5. PEOPLE'S DAILY ON JANUARY 11 CARRIED CONDOLENCE MESSAGES ON THE FIRST AND FOUR OTHER PAGES. INCLUDED WERE THE MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT

FORD TO CHAIRMAN MAO AND TO CHU TEH AND, ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE, THE STATEMENT MADE BY FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON. PEOPLE'S DAILY ON JANUARY 12 REPORTS ON THE FIRST PAGE THE VISIT BY CHINESE LEADERS AND MASS REPRESENTATIVES TO THE HOSPITAL TO VIEW CHOU'S REMAINS AND CARRIES A PICTURE OF CHOU LYING IN STATE DRAPED WITH A FLAG SHOWING THE HAMMER AND SICKLE. FOUR INSIDE PAGES ARE DEVOTED TO CONDOLENCE MESSAGES. PEKING RADIO BROADCASTING IS STILL DOMINATED BY READINGS OF THE MESSAGES.

THAYER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC ATTITUDES, DEATHS, STATE FUNERALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PEKING00071
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760011-0257
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760166/aaaacgmc.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHOU EN-LAI'S DEATH: ATMOSPHERICS
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, CH, (CHOU EN-LAI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006